

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and the following remarks are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,314,454 to Wang et al. (hereinafter "Wang") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,175,858 to Bulfer et al. (hereinafter "Bulfer"). For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that, even if Wang and Bulfer were combined as stated in the rejection, every limitation of claim 1 would not be taught or suggested, as required. Specifically, neither Wang nor Bulfer teaches or suggests "sending said notification *to the client system* in response to arrival of the succeeding message at the server," as required. The Examiner acknowledges that Wang does not teach or suggest these limitations, and therefore cites Bulfer for this purpose. However, Bulfer only teaches that "[a]fter retrieving a new message, the agent 12 would notify the *user* of the new messages," (column 2, lines 49-51, emphasis added). Whereas, claim 1 requires that the server sends a notification to a client system.

In particular, Bulfer teaches notifying the user that a new message has been received by "paging the user or calling the user at a designated number," (column 2, lines 52-53). This in no way suggests communication between the agent and the user's mail client.

Bulfer also teaches, as an alternative to paging or calling the user, that after the new messages are retrieved and deleted from the user's mail server by the agent, the agent can then send a single message back to the user's mail server informing the user that new messages have been received by the agent. Again, this does not in any way suggest communication between the agent and the user's mail client.

Moreover, the messaging agent described in Bulfer must log on to a messaging service (i.e. a server) and check for new messages (see item 140 in Fig. 2 and column 3, lines 44-47), which is indicative of a "pull-type" mail environment. There is no teaching or suggestion anywhere in Bulfer that

the messaging service notifies the agent that new messages have been received. Since the messaging service described in Bulfer is of the "pull-type," it follows that the messaging client that the user normally uses to retrieve new messages is also of the "pull-type," and is therefore incapable of receiving a notification of new messages without first making a request.

Further, as previously explained in detail (see Amendment mailed September 16, 2004), Wang offers no suggestion or motivation for sending a notification from a sever to the client system.

For each of the reasons stated above, there is no teaching or suggestion of using a push-type mail system anywhere in Wang or in Bulfer. Therefore, even if Wang and Bulfer were combined, every limitation of claim 1 would not be taught or suggested. Thus, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-6 are patentable over the prior art of record.

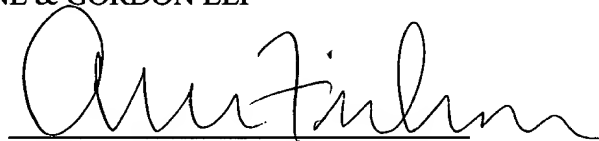
In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 32911.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 28, 2005